

What is claimed is:

1. A vaccine against ricin intoxication comprising deglycosylated ricin A-chain.
- 5 2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising deglycosylated ricin A-chain in an effective immunogenic amount in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or adjuvant.
- 10 3. An immunogenic composition comprising, in a physiologically acceptable vehicle, deglycosylated ricin A-chain.
4. The immunogenic composition according to claim 3 which induces a ricin immune response in a subject.
- 15 5. The immunogenic composition of claim 3, further comprising an adjuvant to enhance the immune response.
- 20 6. The immunogenic composition according to claim 3, formulated in a dose of 0.1 ug to 10 ug of dgRTA.
7. A method for stimulating a ricin immune response, said method comprising administering to a subject an immunologically sufficient amount of dgRTA in a physiologically acceptable vehicle.
- 25 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the dgRTA is administered in an amount of 0.1-10 ug.
9. The method of claim 7 wherein the dgRTA is administered parenterally.
10. The method of claim 7 wherein the dgRTA is administered intranasally.
- 30 11. The method of claim 7 wherein said administration is a multiple administration.
12. The method of claim 7 wherein said administration is at 0 and 4 weeks.

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13. A method for providing immunity against ricin intoxication in a subject comprising administering to said subject antibodies against ricin toxin in an amount effective to effect said immunity.

5 14. An antibody specific for deglycosylated ricin A-chain.

15. A method for the diagnosis of ricin intoxication comprising the steps of:

10 (i) contacting a sample from an subject suspected of having ricin intoxication infection with an antibody to deglycosylated ricin toxin A-chain according to claim 14; and

15 (ii) detecting the presence or absence of ricin intoxication by detecting the presence or absence of a complex formed between ricin and antibodies specific therefor.

20 16. A method for detecting anti-ricin antibodies in a subject comprising contacting a sample from said subject with deglycosylated ricin A-chain and detecting the presence or absence of anti-ricin antibodies by detecting the presence or absence of a complex formed between the deglycosylated ricin A-chain and antibodies specific therefor.

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